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HOUSE RESOLUTION 266  
By Cole (Dyer)

A RESOLUTION to recognize the outstanding contributions to healthcare provided by the Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses of the Methodist Healthcare hospital system to Tennesseans and others under their care.

WHEREAS, it is difficult to overestimate the importance of nursing care to the effectiveness of the overall healthcare system in this state and nation; the current severe shortage of nursing professionals only heightens awareness of the contributions of nurses; and

WHEREAS, Methodist Healthcare is based in Memphis and its largest component, Methodist Healthcare - Memphis Hospitals (MH-MH) consists of Methodist Healthcare - University Hospital (696 beds), Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare - Germantown Hospital (120 beds), Methodist Healthcare - South Hospital (200 beds), Methodist Healthcare - North Hospital (243 beds), Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center (225 Beds), and the 36-bed Extended Care Hospital at Methodist University Hospital; and

WHEREAS, Methodist Healthcare also owns and operates the Methodist Healthcare - Dyersburg Hospital (225 beds), the Methodist Healthcare - Brownsville Hospital (62 beds), the

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Methodist Healthcare - Lexington Hospital (52 beds), the Methodist Healthcare - McKenzie Hospital (65 beds), the Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare - Jackson Hospital (164 beds), the Methodist Healthcare - Volunteer Hospital in Martin (100 beds), the Methodist Healthcare - Fayette Hospital in Somerville (910 beds), and the Methodist Healthcare McNairy Hospital in Selmer (86 beds); and

WHEREAS, the MH-MH component of this 14-hospital system is the third largest hospital in the country and the second largest private employer in Memphis and ranks number one in market share (40.5 percent) in Memphis according to the 2000 Joint Annual Reports of Hospitals; MH-MH has been named among the "Top 100 Hospitals" in the country by HCIA/Mercer and Methodist Healthcare was featured in *Modern Healthcare* magazine as being ranked 38th among the "Top 100 Integrated Healthcare Networks" by the SMG marketing group; and

WHEREAS, the many accolades received by Methodist Healthcare are due in no small part to the dedicated professionalism of the 2,460 Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses who form an essential component of the 8,779 full-time equivalent associates who staff the system; in 2001 the system experienced almost 80,000 inpatient discharges and nearly 530,000 outpatient visits; and

WHEREAS, last year more than 9,800 mothers received help from Methodist Healthcare in delivering their babies; the Methodist Healthcare System also provided \$238 million in Charity and Uncompensated Care during 2001; and

WHEREAS, mindful of the indispensable role played by its nurses, both RNs and LPNs, in the delivery of the system's healthcare services, the administration of the Methodist Healthcare system has designated the week of May 6-10, 2002 as Nurses' Recognition Week to honor its nurses for their professional excellence and ongoing commitment to the best in health care; and

WHEREAS, this legislative body heartily concurs in the appropriateness of this recognition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we join with the administration and healthcare associates of the Methodist Healthcare system in celebrating the week of May 6-10, 2002 as Nurses' Recognition Week and express our admiration and appreciation to the nurses of Methodist Healthcare for their dedication to professional excellence and stalwart commitment to the delivery of compassionate and effective healthcare services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.